

FACT SHEET

GENERAL PERMITS FOR THE DIVERSION OF WATER FOR CONSUMPTIVE USE PROPOSED ISSUEANCE WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS

General Permit Background:

The Department issues several general permits to regulate minor activities considered to have minimal environmental effect. A general permit is issued for one or more geographic locations and applies to an entire category or categories of activity rather than to individual applicants. Those wishing to have their particular regulated activity authorized under an approved general permit must meet certain requirements and conditions contained within the general permit. Like other permits, general permits have limited duration and must be periodically renewed.

There are currently four separate General Permits for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use, each with a particular set of eligible categories and different authorization or notification requirements. They are:

1. General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Authorization Required Categories:
 - a. Withdrawal of up to 250,000 gpd – Surface Water / Stratified Drift Aquifer
 - b. Withdrawal of up to 250,000 gpd – Bedrock Aquifer
 - c. Interconnection and Transfer of Up to 1,000,000gpd
2. General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Filing Only Categories:
 - a. Back Up Well
 - b. Large Tidally-Influenced Rivers
 - c. Small Supplemental Bedrock Well
 - d. Small Water Supply System
3. General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Non-Filing Categories:
 - a. Pump and Recharge Geoexchange System
 - b. Non-Contact Cooling – Surface Waters
 - c. Long Island Sound
4. General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Reauthorization Categories:
 - a. Reauthorization of “Water Supply System Interconnection”
 - b. Reauthorization of “Unregistered Water Supply Systems”
 - c. Reauthorization of “Diversion of up to 250,000 gallons per day New Water”
 - d. Reauthorization of “Backup Wells”
 - e. Reauthorization of “Small Water Supply System”
 - f. Reauthorization of “Restoration of Lost Capacity”

Proposed Modifications:

The current General Permits for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use were issued for a period of ten (10) years and will expire on March 15, 2017, with the exception of the *General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Authorization Categories* which expires on March 29, 2017. In preparation for general permit renewal, the Inland Water Resources Division of the Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, who administers this general permit, has proposed certain minor modifications to this set of general permits. In order to maintain permit coverage for the regulated community, the current general permits are therefore proposed to be renewed for a similar period of ten (10) years. Substantive general permit modifications include:

- Deletion of Stream Channel Encroachment Line application information requirements, as this regulatory program has been discontinued.
- Addition of Hydrostatic Testing of Pipes and Tanks as an eligible category to *the General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Non-Filing Categories*. To be eligible, this activity must be a withdrawal of water from a surface water to fill a pipe, tank or other structure for the purpose of testing the structural integrity of such pipe or tank provided that, 1) the rate of such withdrawal does not exceed five percent of the instantaneous flow of that surface water, and 2) if necessary, all other state permits, licenses or authorization as may be required for the withdrawal, discharge, and all associated infrastructure, have been obtained. Such permits may include, but not be limited to, those required within sections 22a-416 through 22a-438 (Wastewater Discharge), and 22a-359 through 22a-363f (Structures, Dredging and Fill) of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- Revision of eligible categories for *the General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Reauthorization Categories* to allow for reauthorization of currently and previously eligible categories.
- Addition of a web link to the United States Geologic Survey's Streamstats webpage for technical assistance to derive low flow calculations for the *Withdrawal of up to 250,000 gpd – Surface Water / Stratified Drift Aquifer* category of the *General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Authorization Categories*.

Reauthorization:

As with the previous general permit renewal process, current registrants will be required to reregister to maintain their authorization under the general permit utilizing the *General Permit for the Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use: Reauthorization Categories*.

Public Comment:

The public notice contains information on how to provide comment on or request a public hearing for the proposed general permits. The public notice can be found at [\[insert link\]](#). Your input is encouraged, however please be aware that the deadline for comments is [\[insert date\]](#).